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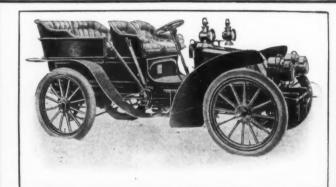
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LIFE



THE GAME OF "FOLLOW THE LEADER."

A Refutation.



1404 Michi-

S a report seems to be touring the country to the effect that Mr. Gibson has departed this LIFE, and is mixed up with The Ladies' Home Journal, we hasten to correct a statement reflecting so injuriously upon a close personal friend of this journal. Mr. Gibson has no agreement with The Ladies' Home Journal. His work will appear only in

Collier's Weekly and LIFE.

THE Fountain of Youth lies in the smiling eyes of our children.

A Prophecy.

HAVING commented with characteristic amiability in his poem, "The Rowers," upon England's alliance with Germany, Mr. Rudyard Kipling may be expected at almost any moment now to express his views on the reference of the Venezuela matter to arbitration. It is no violation of confidence or copyright to suggest that these will take form somewhat as follows:

THE KISS OF THE SNAKE.

Ye have forced a way through the jungle, Ye have hewed a path through the wood: With bluster and blunder and bungle

Have ye wrought for ill or good! Ye have hammered flat the mountains,

Fen have ye drained and lake-Ye are feared, ye boast,

Nor of Man nor Ghost-Beware the Caress of the Snake! Desert and forest and mountain

Have ye handled for right or wrong-Have moved the river and fountain

To ways they shall follow long: With hammer and sword and ploughshare

Ye have made Mother Earth to ache:

Ye have riven her breast In your great Unrest-

But beware the Fang of the Snake! I have piped, ye have danced: the worl

trembled

At the sound of your moving feet: And Nations and Thrones assembled Raise eager hands to entreat:

Hear their imploring-but hearken! Ye will never make mistake,

No aid will ye need

If ye but take heed-Beware of the Kiss of the Snake!

R. G. Butler.

· LIFE ·



While there is Life there's Hope.

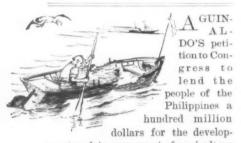
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ment and improvement of agriculture is not approved even by the best friends of the Filipinos in this country, but its spirit is respected, and it has had some effect in calling increased attention to the distress which now prevails in the islands as a result of war, cholera, cattle diseases and other calamities. A large proportion of the Filipinos are near starvation and unquestionably need help. It lies with Congress to help them by an appropriation of money, an abatement of the tariff in their favor, and by giving them a sound currency. Governor Taft wants three million dollars for their immediate relief. He ought to have it, and have it promptly, and surely Congress will also concede the reduction of tariff and the currency legislation which the Administration calls for. The Filipinos are out of our sight; there is danger that they will be out of mind too. Their present distresses are the immediate results of American efforts to improve their condition. There is a fair prospect that those efforts will eventually do some good, but meanwhile the islanders need prompt attention and timely help. It augurs well of the improved relations between the Filipino leaders and our representatives in the islands that Aguinaldo's petition should have been forwarded to Congress. It is a reasonable inference from that that the natural leaders of the Filipinos are no longer regarded as enemies of the United States.



OLONEL ARTHUR LYNCH,

British subject of Irish birth, late commander of a regiment on the Boer side in the South African war, has been tried for high treason, found guilty, and sentenced to death. But our British brethren are not going to behead or even to hang him. His sentence has been modified to life imprisonment, and probably in due time he will be let out of jail. That seems a highly convenient disposition of his case, both for him and for the British Government. Executions for high treason are very much out of date. They have to be public, and a public execution would scandalize contemporary England. Besides, there was a strong element of opera bouffe about Lynch's treason. He was elected to Parliament by an Irish constituency while he was in South Africa, and came back to Europe, but lingered a good while in Paris before he could make up his mind whether to risk himself on English soil. When he did set foot in England he was arrested. By trying and condemning him the British Government has recorded its disapproval of subjects who take arms against the Crown. By commuting his sentence it has avoided making a hero of him, and eluded the vengeance of Father T. Dempsey of St. Louis, who was ready to dynamite the British Empire if Lynch was executed.



MR. CHARLES SKINNER, Superintendent of Public Instruction in New York State, has reported to the Legislature that he does not consider that the State Constitution is violated by reading the Bible in the public schools, and that he will not stop such reading where no sectarian teaching accompanies it. Some of his predecessors held a different opinion, but Mr. Skinner argues the legality of his position, and also says that by order of the Board of Education in New York selections from the Bible have been read daily in the schools of that godly city for many years without appeal or protest or evidence of dissatisfaction. It is to be hoped that both the Legislature and the public will rest easy under Mr. Skinner's report. The Bible is still the most interesting and important of books to the Western world, and is highly respected by good judges of literature.



THERE is a disposition to amend football by abolishing "massplays." A mass-play is one in which five or six players stand one behind another and try to force a way through the opposing squad. They are criticised as being dangerous to the players and uninteresting to the spectators. They can be avoided by a very simple modification of the rules. Anything that can be done to increase the gratification of spectators at football games ought to be done. They spend their time and money freely, and endure cold, rain and acute physical discomfort for the benefit and encouragement of comparatively few players. If the abolition of mass-plays will make the game livelier and give better sport, abolish them.



ONGRESSMAN FITZGERALD, of New York, proposes a law forbidding the use for advertising purposes by any person engaged in trade of the likeness of any living person whose consent has not been first obtained. It would be a good law, and Congress might possibly find warrant for passing it in the power given it to regulate commerce. But the commerce clause in the Constitution needs watching. If it keeps on stretching, Congress will soon declare that marriage is a bargain, and pass laws regulating divorce, and compelling husbands to be in at ten o'clock.



Valentine Verses.

THE POINT OF VIEW.

THOUGHT that valentines were out of date; That paper hearts and fondly foolish rhymes And all the symbols of a callow

Were everywhere declared behind the times.

And then I saw a maid laugh out in glee

And hide her missive, and a youth, elate,
Grow red at his; and knew—alas for me—

It's not St. Valentine who's out of date!

Juliet Wilbor Tompkins,

TO SAINT VALENTINE.

(The Presbyter or Bishop, so called because of his amiable character, was beheaded at Rome in the reign of the Emperor Claudius.)

OH, Saint, beheaded by the Roman folk,
Thy fate was harsh and stern,
But hardly worse than mine!
For I, oh, I do burn
With love, and love's no joke;
St. Valentine!

Now, really, Saint, a fellow-feeling ought
To make you kind to me:

Just like your blessed Saintship I am caught:
I've lost my head, you see!

Richard Burton.

VALENTINE TO SIBYLLA.

PIQUANT, petite; Nose retroussé; All that is sweet,-That is her way. Smile like a ray; Eves-how they shine! Sibylla, say-Will you be mine? Voice, such a treat !-Thrush-song in May When falls the fleet Dusk of the day. Tresses where play Gold gleams divine; Sibylla, say-Will you be mine? Hear me repeat Love's roundelay !-Every heart-beat Yours is for ave; Hark, while I pray! List, lest I pine!

ENVOY.
Whisper me "yea,"
Fair Valentine!—
Sibylla, say

Sibylla, say-

Will you be mine?

When you'll be mine! Clinton Scollard.

A Kind-Hearted Ruler.

W E copy the following comment from our bright Newark neighbor, The Whim:

THE KAISER'S SPORTING RECORD.

THE KAISER'S SPORTING RECORD.

BERLIN, October 28.—It is announced in the papers here that the Kaiser has completed his thirtieth year as a hunter and sportsman. An claborate list is given of his thirty years' "bag." It seems that his Majesty has killed an aggregate of 47,443 animals. Of these 18,891 were pheasants, 27.881 hares, 2,507 wild pigs, 1,627 rabbits, over 4,500 deer of all sorts, including 3 reindeer and 7 clk, 121 chamois, several hundreds of various birds, as grouse, bustards, ducks, etc., 1 marten, 1 whale and 1 pike. The list closes with "473 various other animals," as to which no details are given, and about which some reasonable curiosity is felt.—London Chronicle.

How proud the Kaiser must feel when he ponders the havoe he has wrought among the harmless denizens of his forests. How his manly bosom must swell when he thinks of the fearless way in which he bowled over the unsuspecting animals. Safe in his cover, unseen by his victims, he merely pressed the trigger and sent the death-dealing missile towards the living target.

T seems that tight lacing tends to make a woman's nose red. That is to say, things don't look quite so dark for posterity as they did.



Explorer: can you tell me where I can find the north fole?

Native; say, young feller, you are the fifth man who has asked me
that question. What's the joke, anyhow?

THE LATEST BOOKS

On the Cross, Wilhelmine von Hillern's "Romance of the Passion Play at Oberammergau," can only be described as a case of rushing in where the angels themselves would hesitate. The theme has tremendous emotional and dramatic possibilities, but offers insurmountable obstacles to good taste. Zola would have attempted it, and failed. A Milton or a Shakespeare might have succeeded, but would never have attempted it. It is fair to say, however, that if the book is sensational, and, in places, fairly sacrilegious, this is apparently the result of the author's limitations and not of her intentions. (Drexel Biddle, Philadelphia. \$1.50.)

Mrs. Alice Morse Earle, whose accurate and charming writings upon old-time ways have had so wide a popularity, has surpassed her own record in her new volume, Sun Dials and Roses of Yesterday. It represents a vast amount of delving and study, and gives their results in most attractive form. The history, esthetics and mathematics of the dial are all included, and the book is finely illustrated. (The Macmillan Company. \$2.50.)

Man's inhumanity to his wife is treated from the widely separated standpoints of twentieth century realism and mid-Victorian sentimentality in two current stories. The Life of a Woman, by R. V. Risley, is at once so graphic and so commonplace as to be merely depressing. The woman never wholly enlists our sympathy, and the man does not even win the compliment of our contempt. (Herbert S. Stone and Company, Chicago.)

Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, on the other hand, in Aeery, calls in a vision and a semi-miracle to reduce the delinquent to remorse and ring down the curtain upon a happy stage and a tearful audience. Unfortunately, the selfish husbands, who alone might be benefited by either book, will never read them. (Houghton, Mifflin and Company. \$1.00.)

Napoleon Jackson is one of Ruth McEnery Stuart's clever sketches of Southern darkies. Napoleon is a gentleman of color and of elegant leisure, whose mother had "marked him for rest," and the story hinges upon the vain efforts of "the quality" to establish a proper division of labor between him and his cheerfully industrious wife. The little book is amusing, with a touch of very genuine sentiment. (The Century Company. \$1.00.)

The Weaving of Webs is a story of secret service in and about Richmond under General McClellan, in which Dame Fortune is kept busy controlling the alternating current of her smiles and frowns. After playing seesaw with the hero and the villain through many chapters she finally confirms the eternal laws of poetic justice. The book is by Francis W. van Praag. (R. F. Fenno and Company. \$1.50.)

More of James Whitcomb Riley's verses about youngsters are always welcome. His new volume. The Book of Joyous Children, is daintly illustrated, and holds some delightful bits of real Riley. (Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.)

J. B. Kerfoot.



"HOW DID YOUR LADYSHIP FIND THE JEWELS WHICH I CAUSED TO BE CONVEYED TO YOU?"
"WITH THE AID OF AN ENLARGING GLASS, YOUR EXCELLENCY."

· LIFE ·





TWAS St. Valentine's Day, and Father Time

Said, "I think I'll scribble a bit o' rhyme, To send to the sweetest maid on earth."

And the old fellow chuckled in roguish mirth.

He reached for his inkhorn and quill, then said.

As he absently nodded his wise old head,

" But what maiden is gentle and sweet and fine

Enough to be my Valentine? There's a musical girl in Kalamazoo,-But I hear she beats Time, so she won't do; There's a fair New York girl, proud and calm, But they say she kills Time without a qualm!

A pretty clubwoman I saw one day, But 'I won't have Time,' I heard her say. For one of those summer girls I yearn; But they declare they 'have Time to burn.' There are lovely girls in a Southern clime, But they sweetly admit that they waste Time.



Cupid: IT'S EASY ENOUGH TO MAKE MATCHES IN THIS COUNTRY, WHERE IT IS SO DARK YOU CAN'T SEE WHAT YOU ARE SPOONING WITH.

While the bustling woman, with manners

Takes Time by the forelock, and that does hurt.

On the Boston maiden I make no claim, To improve Time seems to be her aim. And I heard an old spinster contriving a

Say, 'I'll try to get Time as soon as I can.' So none of these whom I've mentioned yet A Valentine from Time shall get.

But I've in mind a maiden who, When a fond lover came to woo,

Just blushed and hung down her pretty head,

And 'Give me Time!' was all she said. By Cupid, that's the maid for me! To her my Valentine shall be."

Carolyn Wells.

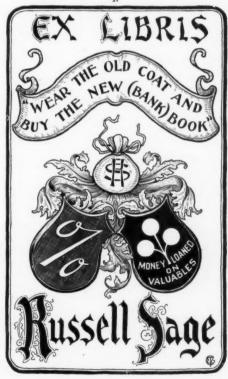
This Country of Ours.

THE Government of the United States comprises three departments, viz.: Wall Street, the W. C. T. U., and the Beet Sugar Industry.

The Beet Sugar Interests fix the

The W. C. T. U. determines what pictures shall hang in the White House.

Wall Street, with such clerical help as Congress may render, does the SOME DESIGNS FOR BOOK PLATES.



· LIFE ·

An Interrupted Courtship.

caped from the pages of our best magazines, met at country house in an afternoon-tea environment. The Heroine belonged to

that class of characters whose home surroundings are thus described: " 'I calkilate I'd better fly 'round an' stir up a mess o' crulls an' some johnny-cake fer

the leaden New England sky."

The Hero, on the other hand, was of that aristocracy of stories which begin with a paragraph of scenery, and are followed by a personal descriptive bit, written with style: "A face, remote yet not resentful, abstracted yet not capriciously, morbidly indifferent in that it defined an appreciation of a subtlety wholly suggestive, but nevertheless arriving at plaintiveness in the cadences of a voice whose

echoes betraved an irrefragable and unimpassioned

peccability."

Had this maid and this man met in a cheap magazine, the usual melodramatic dénouement might have been expected; but they were the brain children of those who had painfully acquired a vocabulary, and had spent the rest of their time in hauling up buckets from the wells of "English undefiled," thus entirely

failing to observe life's interesting pageant.

Now the daughter of Mirandy and Hiram Stebbins was doomed to "eddication." She had profited by her opportunities, and was about to take up literature, having almost completed "The Love Letters of a Vassar Girl, by One Who Could Not Possibly Have Received Any." Consequently she knew enough to avail herself of the privileges of the tea-table; so she politely inquired: "Will you take lemon. cream, or rum in your tea?"

"I don't quite know," replied the young man. "I just escaped from the magazine this afternoon. If I am the child of a New England spinster."the girl blushed and looked down,-"my conscience wouldn't allow me to take rum or lemon. It would savor of



The Elephant: DON'T SHOOT, GRANDPA HOAR! YOU MAY KILL me.

cosmopolitan frivolity. But if I belong to the American 'society tale,' whose authors usually write with the naïve snobbery of 'gentlemen's gentlemen,' I shall be obliged to take

The girl gazed at him perplexedly a moment, and then put down her cup.

"Look," she cried, "here come Ethel Newcome and David Copperfield, Jane Evre and Tristram Shandy, Mrs. Proudie and Tom Jones, Charlie O'Malley and Maggie Tulliver. They're real. What's the use of our fooling and pretending that we can drink tea? We are only ink and paper." Mrs. Wilson Woodrow.

HILDREN are wise: they see every day something wonderful and beantiful.

The Leisure Class.

THE leisure class is the fruitage of material prosperity. It comprises two species, namely, the smart set and the

These species differ (genus plus differentia giving us the scholastic definition of species) both accidentally and essentially; accidentally, in that the smart set always have money to burn; essentially, in that hoboes sometimes have a sense of humor.

The smart set are the successes, the hoboes the failures, of our civilization. Our civilization is remarkable in that its successes and its failures are equally good for nothing.

However, we are not money-mad; merely money-drunken; in the morning, doubtless, we shall be sober.

M AN has to work for what the lower animals get free.



The Judgment of Bishop Valentine.

Die tyme a Youthe of faire degree Didde looke upon a Mayde. Ih me.

She was as cove as anye flow'r,
She stole hys harte in thatte sayme
how'r.

Alle vainlie he to Love didde calle, Le blinde Godde holp hym notte atte alle.

Co Bishop Ualentine thenne hies Ye Youthe, ye Damosel likewyse, Ande each 'gan tell hys tayle of griefe. Each sayd ye other was ye thiefe.

"Zounds!" cried ye Sainte, "this brawle must cease.

T'll binde ye bothe to keepe ye peace."
Whereat ye twain in nowyse loath,

"Pray then wyth one bond binde us bothe."

Eoude laughed ye Sainte, "Perdi! 'Cis done!"

And made ye Youthe and Mayden one.

Lady, anent this suit of mine
In search of precedents, I waded
Through ancient lore, and found this fine
Old Judgment, in a parchment faded.
If you will ponder the last line
And be by wise example aided,
We, too, will make Saint Valentine
Our Judge, and—compromise, as they did.

Oliver Herford.

NODD: Old man, I really believe you have stopped your worrying. What brought about the change?

Todo (cheerfully): My troubles are more real than they used to be.

TIFE is a school, with board and lodging extra.



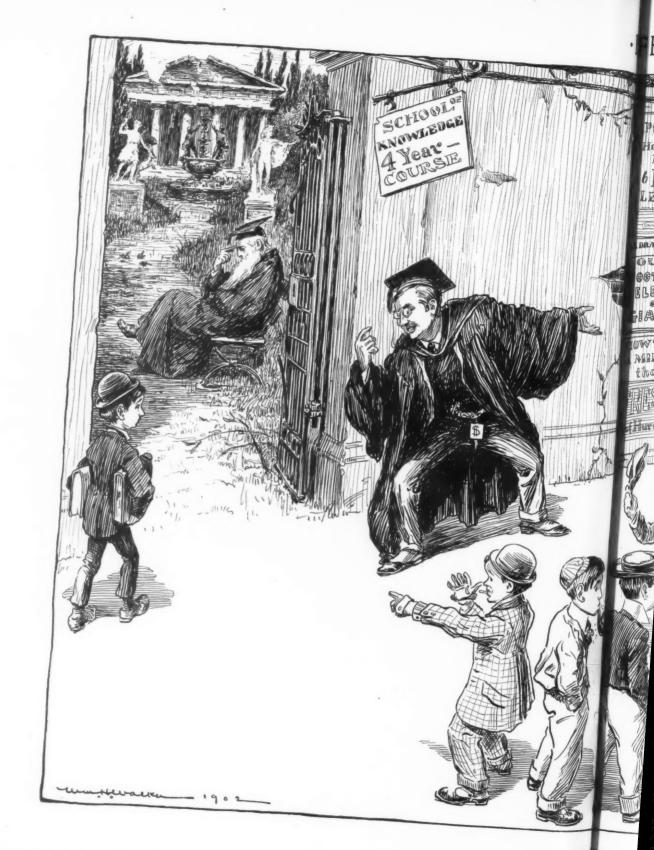
Peace.

IF, as we are now advised they will be, the festivities incident to the entertainment of Lord Roberts by the Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston have been prolonged sufficiently to enable these fine troops to wear all, or nearly all, their different uniforms, bonds of amity are likely to be cemented.

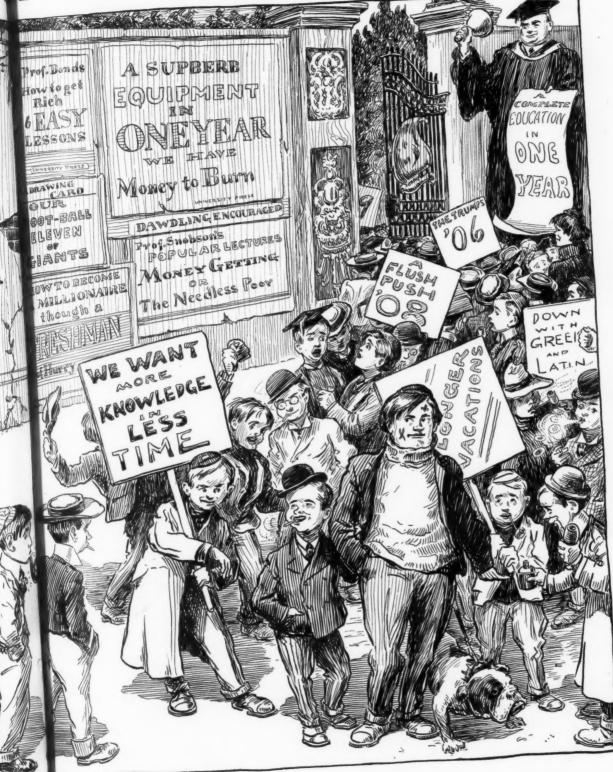
Of course it is the demonstration of our preparedness for war that makes for peace. Minding our own business is obsolete.

FIRST MODERN PLAYWRIGHT: Aren't you always nervous on the first night?

SECOND MODERN PLAYWRIGHT: Never! I am too careful where I get my ideas.



DU AL.





Two Good Ones.

THE best laid schemes o' mice and men Gang aft a-gley; And leave us naught but grief and pain For promised joy.

Burns's lines furnish the title to Mrs. Ryley's pretty play, the schemes being those of a well-intentioned gentleman to bring up a young girl in the way she should go with a view to making

her his wife. The schemes go "a-gley" because the feminine young person, as always, seems to have, in

matters of the heart, an innate tendency to go in directly the opposite direction to that intended for her. This is a little bit rough on Mark Embury, who had arranged the plan, and he is seen at the last curtain taking up his life in loneliness instead of in double-harness as he had fondly anticipated. The sympathy, however, has all along been with the young lovers, so his disappointment is borne philosophically by the audience. The whole atmosphere of " Mice and Men" is refreshing. It is not a great play, but it is clean and wholesome; it tells its little romance simply and directly, and yet does not drop into the slough of mushy sentimentality. Mrs. Ryley has not aimed unreasonably high and she has hit her target full in the centre. The success of her play goes to contradict the belief entertained very generally in the theatrical world that the taste of the whole American public has become so debauched that only what is tawdry or meretricious appeals to it. The character of the audiences attracted by this play shows that there is a saving remnant of theatre-goers who will not patronize the ordinary "show" of commerce, but who will give substantial support to decent plays if they are well presented.

Not only is the play attractive, but it is a joy indeed to find three artists like Annie Russell, Mrs. Gilbert and Mr. John Mason playing together. Annie Russell is the star, and in Peggy, the ward of Mark Embury, who is to become his wife, she has a part exactly fitted to her sweet and gentle personality. It is enough to say that Mrs. Gilbert appears as the housekeeper of Embury-to praise her would be almost to paint the lily. Mr. John Mason's part is a reposeful one, and he plays it with a polished dignity only too rare among our present-day actors. There are other good actors, too, notably Messrs. Glendinning, Johnson and Butler, and in its entirety the cast is a better one than has been brought together for some time.

" Mice and Men" can be witnessed without loss of self-respect, either on the grounds of intelligence or morals, and is a most enjovable entertainment.

OT only the children but grown-ups as well will find in "The Little Princess," performed afternoons at the Criterion, a most delightful and surprising combination of play and players. It is distinctly a play of childhood, but in it Mrs. Burnett

has mingled the humorous and pathetic, the former predominating, in a way to joy the heart of anyone who has ever taken the slightest interest in children, and in the better side of children's ways. Those who have children of their own should take them to this performance as a lesson in those good manners to which in this country perhaps too little attention is paid. Besides, Mrs. Burnett tells a very interesting little story which closely holds the attention of both child and adult. Miss Millie James, who is Sarah, the child heroine of the piece, gives a really remarkable performance, and it is difficult to believe that she is in fact a young woman instead of the charming child she so sweetly and artistically portrays. The others in the cast, most of them real children, have been wonderfully well trained, and the results in the way of acting are indeed noteworthy. Some of them put their elders to the blush. The audiences, composed mostly of children who follow the story with absorbed interest and unconcealed delight, are an entertainment in themselves. There is nothing jaded or blase about these spectators and it must be a joy to play to them.

It is worth the while of even a very busy business man to take part of an afternoon off to see "The Little Princess." It will do him good in more ways than one. It is not to be inferred from this that the play is anything in the nature of a Sunday-school lesson. It simply goes to increase the blessed love of children.

R. BLUEBEARD" is a combination of handsome spectacular effects and costuming imported second-hand from London, and commonplace humor of the Tenderloin type made to order in this country. It contains a few laughs, notably those caused by the grotesque antics of a two-man stage elephant. There is also introduced a cleverly acrobatic small

ballet of imported English girls. As to the rest of the show, if every spectator should be equipped with a chestnut-bell, and ring it on due provocation, not much would be heard of this classic performance.

"Mr. Bluebeard" is the kind of entertainment perfectly adapted to people who have table d'hoted at fitty cents, and filled up on table d'hote wine. It is a cheap show for cheap people and-they like it. Metcalfe.

LIFE'S CONFIDENTIAL GUIDE TO THE THEATRES.

Academy of Music.-"Florodora." Second edition of the original musical comedy

-"The Darling of the Gods." Sombre but interesting and wonderfully well staged story of Japanese life.

Bijou.—Mr. Clyde Fitch's "The Bird in the Cage." More immoral than

"The Silver Slipper." Musical comedy of the regulation kind and only average interest.

Casino.—"The Chinese Honeymoon." Musical comedy. Fairly tuneful

and funny.

Criterion.—Julia Marlowe in "The Cavaller." Military drama Interesting atory well acted. Afternoons, "The Little Princess," See above.

Daty's.—'The Billionaire.' Musical comedy. Tenderloiny.

Garden.—Mr. Sothern in "If I Were King." Poetic drama. Worth

Garrick.—Annie Russell in "Mice and Men." See above.

Herald Square.—"Mr. Pickwick" in musical guise. Funny and melo-

ious.

Knickerbocker.—"Mr. Bluebeard." See above.

Manhattan.—"Mary of Magdala." Interesting version of the scriptural

Manhattan.—"Mary of Magdala." Interesting version of the scriptural story. Well staged.

New York.—Last week of "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" Musical comedy with tunes of the period of the Rebellion. Worth hearing. Princess.—Louis Mann in "The Consul." Too much of Louis Mann. Savoy.—Mr. Fitch's "The Girl with the Green Eyes." International comedy. Diverting.

Saroy.—Mr. Fitch's "the Gir with the Green Eyes." International comedy. Diverting. Victoria.—Last week of "The Eternal City." Fairly interesting dramatization of Hall Caine's novel.

Wallack's.—"The Sultan of Sulu." Musical comedy, with book by George Ade. Funny and melodious.

Weber and Field's.—Burlesque and vaudeville. Accommodating speculators have good seats for sale at advanced prices.

The Man Who Didn't Fail.

(A NIGHTMARE OF THE FUTURE.)



"To-morrow," he fumed, "is my wedding-day. I must be in London by four o'clock sure, or forfeit my reputation."

Several local society leaders came forward with offers of a soot plough.

"No," said McPlunger, "these modern appliances are no good. I shall use, after all, the old-fashioned hot-air blower."

As they rose finally through the soot, they were greeted by cheers from eighteen million throats. New York was next. How to get by was the question.

In half an hour they sighted the offices of the Metropolitan Street Railway rising to a height of several miles. As they came near they saw people being clubbed by the conductors.

Several thousand children flew in their way, but McPlunger ran through them mercilessly.

"London or Bust!" was his motto.

"We might go South," suggested his private secretary. "Somewhere along the Atlantic coast there ought to be a break in these office buildings enough to let us through."

His master frowned.

"What do you think the Building Trust has been doing—sleeping nights?" he asked satirically.

"Not on your life! Our only hope is the coast of Greenland."

They passed Boston in fifteen minutes. The secretary shivered. Advertisements of new religions were skyhigh on the horizon.

"What's that we've struck?" he cried, as the machine plunged and swayed from side to side.

"Those are Parker House rolls," said McPlunger. "Well, I'll be hanged, if there isn't a row of office buildings ten miles high right up the coast of Greenland. No air is deep enough to let us get over them."

"Let's go back to 'Frisco," said the private secretary. "You were married



A VALENTINE.

only last week. Won't you wait another week before you are married again?"

"No!" roared McPlunger, "I can't. Besides, the girl expects

"Well," said the private secretary, getting out his parachute, "I'll resign my job right here. I'm going to work my way back to 'Frisco, if it takes all day."

So saying, he dropped off at Halifax. McPlunger sat for a long time over the Provinces in deep thought.

"There's only one way out of it,"

he muttered. "I'll do it, if it costs me my life."

Thereupon he called up the London Flying Machine Trust by wireless.

"Have a machine on the ocean side of New York, with all possible speed," he aired, "and wait for me."

"Very good, sir," was the reply.

"And now," said McPlunger, "back to the Harlem River. It's the only route I know."

At three-thirty the next afternoon he was ready for the ceremony, his pale, emaciated and bruised form, however, showing the terrible effects of his ordeal.

"Darling," said his latest bride, "how did you get here? How did you get over those American office buildings?"

"I didn't," said McPlunger faintly. "I left my machine on the other side, and for your sake I faced death in a thousand forms, and walked through the streets of New York!"

Tom Masson.

Wonders.

A WAGON loaded with hard coal came up the street.

The excitement was intense.

Suddenly a trolley car stopped and let a man off precisely where he wanted to get off.

Many pinched themselves to see if they were awake.

In the midst of it all, the policeman whose duty it was to be there was there, and treated everybody courteously.

Persons with weak hearts began to fall dead.

But now an automobile, going eighty miles an hour, tore through the dense mass of people. Wonders had ceased; the spell was broken; the world wagged on in the old way.

Beware of Love.

I T is reported that the vivisectors are getting up a Society for the Prevention of Kindness to Animals.

We don't believe it. These slanderous reports will travel. Besides, you know, the vivisector loves animals. We had an uncle who loved lamb.

Society.

THE BULLIFAT INKUMS have gone South. They will remain there until they come back. Mrs. Inkum gets all her potatoes of Tiffany.

There is a rumor floating about that Miss Flissie Heep, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Toppother Heep, wore a hat last Thursday that did not quite please her. We sent a reporter to the house, and he was officially informed that the rumor, while based on fact, was somewhat exaggerated.

The reporters from the New York Times and the New York Tribune were already on the doorstep when our representative arrived.

Mrs. Hardy Snubber, last Monday, was walking from her costly equipage to the doorway of an expensive jeweler, when she noticed a slippery place upon the sidewalk. Had she not seen it in time she might have fallen. She has about seven millions in her own right.

At a dinner given by Mrs. Innittor Dedd in her palatial mansion on Madison Avenue recently, Mrs. Shaidee Ppast began to laugh while drinking champagne, and she almost choked.



HUMPTY DUMPTY SAT ON A WALL, HUMPTY DUMPTY HAD A GREAT FALL; ALL THE KING'S HORSES AND ALL THE KING'S MEN COULDN'T PUT HUMPTY DUMPTY TOGETHER AGAIN.

Books.

L INCOLN read only a few books, and not always the best books, and was highly educated.

We read a great many books, and very good books, and are much less highly educated, as a rule.

The business of books is to set a man to thinking. After he has been set to thinking, what he needs most of all is time to think.





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WELL, NOT EXACTLY. BUT IT'S ANYWHERE IN NEW YORK ALONG THE LINE OF THE SUBWAY.

PANT SCISSORS AND NULLUS

WHAT THE ELEPHANT THOUGHT.

Into the city of Delhi so old, Seated at ease in a howdah of gold, With his fair lady, Lord Curzon so bold Entered with never a blink. Worshipped his elephant was by the crowd; All to incarnate old deities bowed-But as he heard all the shouting so loud, What did the elephant think?

What did the elephant think of the show Where he was largely It, whether or no, As he advanced with tread stately and slow, All his trappings a-clink?

What did he think when the others their trunks Raised and blew out their strange noises like chunks?

Had he a thought of Chicagotown plunks? What did the elephant think?

What did this elephant massive and tall, Ponderous, dignified, think of it all? Did he think he had heard Fame trumpet's call On immortality's brink?

Or did he wish for the set of the sun. Wish such vain foolishness all he might shun? Didn't he wish from the start it was done?

What did the elephant think? —Indianapolis News. An Indian Territory editor has this to say of his

"Editing a newspaper is a pleasant business-if you can stand it.

"If it contains many advertisements, a subscriber complains that they take up too much space. If there is lack of advertising, it is unpopular and the people won't have it.

"If we attend church regular, they say we go for effect. If we stay away from church, they say we are monstrously heathenish.

"If we accept an invitation to a wedding, they say we are only invited to 'write it up.'

"If we go to the opera house, they say we go on free tickets. If we are seen upon the streets too often, they say we neglect our business. If we avoid going on the street, they say we don't hustle around after the news.

"If we publish a man who has brought disgrace upon his family, the friends of the family never forgive us. If we, out of goodness of heart, decline to say anything on the subject, the man's enemies are disappointed and we are branded as white-livered cowards."-Exchange.

THE latest child saying on record comes to us from a reader whose six-year-old son was the triumphant originator of it. Writing just before

Christmas to Santa Claus to tell him what would be appreciated as gifts by himself and his smaller brother, he was puzzled as to how he should sign it. He turned to his mother and inquired, "Shall I say 'from your loving little friend, Willie,' or shall I say 'Amen,' as I do to God?"-London Daily

A NUMBER of years ago suit was brought against the cashier of the State Bank of Iowa Falls, to recover an alleged deposit, which deposit the bank denied. During the trial at Eldora, the defendant's attorney made a very convincing argument for his client, and took pains to tell the jury of his client's high social and religious standing, and of the confidence of the people which he enjoyed, and endeavored to impress upon the minds of the jury that the defendant was not the kind of a man to make a mistake in the handling of other people's money.

Tom H. Milner, then, as now, a witty as well as a very shrewd lawyer, represented the other side, and in addressing the jury said:

"Gentlemen, I heartily concur in what my brother has said of the defendant; I agree with him in each and every statement that he has made pertaining to Mr. --- 's good self: but I would have you consider deeply this one fact-Canada is full of just such men."-Green Bag.

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January 12, 1903.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, AS required by the Greater New York Charter, that the books called "The Annual Record of the Assessed Valuation of Real and Personal Estate of the Boroughs of Manhattan, The Bronx, Brooklyn. Queens and Richmond, comprising The City of New York," will be open for examination and correction on the second Monday of January, and will remain open until the TST DAY OF APRIL, 1903.

During the time that the books are open to public inspection, application may be made by any person or corporation claiming to be aggrieved by the assessed valuation of real or personal estate to have the same corrected.

In the Borough of Manhattan, at the main office of the Department of Taxes and Assessments, No. 280 Broadway. In the Borough of The Bronx, at the Gibe of the Department, Municipal Building, One Hundred and Seventy-seventh street and Third Avenue.

In the Borough of Brooklyn, af the Building. January 12, 1903.

Borough of Diversity the Department,

STEWART BUILDING.

In the Borough of Queens, at the office of the Department, Hackett Building, Jackson Avenue and Fifth Street, Long Island City.

In the Borough of Richmond, at the office of the Department, Masonic Building, Stapleton.

Corporations in all the Boroughs must make application only at the main office in the Borough of Manhattan.

Applications in relation to the assessed valuation of personal estate must be made by the person assessed at the office of the Department in the Borough where such person resides, and in the case of a non-resident carrying on business in The City of New York, at the office of the Department of the Borough where such place of business is located between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M., except on Saturday, when all applications must be made between 10 A. M. and 12 noon.

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-Washington Post.

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"He says you have no application, Gerald." "No application!" he echoed bitterly. "I wonder if he knows I've been coming to see you twice a week for nearly six years!"-Chicago Tribune.

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"Officer," asked the Police Court Judge, "what made you think the prisoner was drunk?"

"Well, your Honor, as he was going along the sidewalk he ran plump into a street lamp-post. He backed away, replaced his hat on his head, and firmly started forward again, but once more ran into the post. Four times he tried to get by the post, but each time his uncertain steps took him plump into the iron pole. After the fourth attempt and failure to pass the post he backed off. fell to the pavement, and clutching his head in his hands, murmured, as one lost to all hope:

"'Lost! Lost in an impenetrable forest!"" "Ten days," said the Court .- Green Bag.

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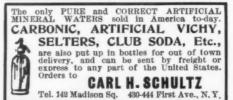
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Each acre as soon as it is sold is cleared and planted to 600 rubber trees; 400 of these are tapped to death before maturity, leaving at the end of the development period 200 trees, the normal number per acre for permanent yield. The advantage of this

method is that by beginning the tapping thus early dividends begin also in the same year.

Any one can own such shares, or acres. by paying for them in small monthly instalments. Supposing you buy only five. You pay \$20 a month for 12 months, then \$10 a month for a limited period, until you have paid the full price of the shares in the present series-\$276 each; but during the period of these payments you will have received dividends amounting to \$210 per share; hence the actual cost of your shares, or acres, is only \$66 each, and you own real estate then worth at least \$2,500, and from the maturity period onward, as long as you live, your five acres, or shares, will yield you a yearly income of \$1,200. This is a most conservative estimate (based on Government reports of the United States and Great Britain, the most reliable sources of informa-This is a most tion in the world) for 200 trees per acre, and figuring them as yielding each only two pounds of crude rubber per year, a total of 400 pounds at 60 cents net per pound. Of course, if you buy 10 shares your income would be \$2,400 yearly, or better still, 25 shares will yield \$6,000 a year.

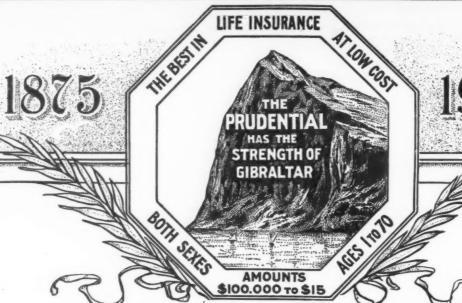
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Greatest Record

in the History of this Giant Company

LIFE INSURANCE ISSUED AND PAID FOR during 1902, including Ordinary Insurance (\$87,000,000), over	272 Millions
ASSETS, end of 1902, over	60 Millions
INCOME, during 1902, over	33 Millions
PAID POLICY-HOLDERS, during 1902, over .	9 Millions
SURPLUS, over	9 Millions
POLICIES IN FORCE, nearly	5 Millions
INCREASE IN PAID-FOR INSURANCE in Force,	over 108 Millions

MAKING THE GRAND TOTAL OF

Paid-for Insurance in Force over 800 Millions

Paid Policy-holders in 27 Years, nearly 68 Millions

Features of the Year's Administration were

Marked Reduction in Expense Rate. Increased Dividends to Policy-Holders.

The Progressive Management and the Judicious Care of, and Liberality in Dealing with,
Policy-holders' Interests, have made this

ONE OF THE GREAT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD

Write for Information of Policies or Agencies, Dept. O.

THE PRUDENTIAL

Home Office: Newark, N. J.

INSURANCE CO. OF AMERICA

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President.